

C.B. Diamond

Dec. 1958



THE DIAMOND

Founded 1951

Written, edited and managed by the men of COLLIN'S BAY PENITENTIARY with the permission of MAJOR-GENERAL RALPH B. GIBSON CB, CBE, VD, QC, LLD, Commissioner of Penitentiaries and with the sanction of COLONEL VICTOR S.J. RICHMOND, Penitentiary Warden.

CHIEF KEEPER William Downton
PRINCIPAL KEEPER Fred Smith

Don Peachy

Al Thompson

Buck Bordeleau

A. Gordon

— PLATFORM —

1. To inspire and cultivate moral and intellectual improvement amongst the men of Collin's Bay Penitentiary.
2. To aid in overcoming the arbitrary bias which is one of the numerous "bars sinister" to a wayward man's redemption.
3. To discuss progressive and revolutionary penological data, without recourse to partiality, favour or affection.
4. To evince Stoicism and humour, to the end that light shall obtain even in darkness.
5. To elicit the support of Society in welcoming the return of a man from prison who needs help and who is genuinely desirous of seeking his reformation in the highly competitive life of the free world.

PRINTING INSTRUCTORS

Mr. L. D. Cook

Mr. A.A. Slack

CENSUS (October 21, 1958)

TOTAL POPULATION	440	DISCHARGED:
HIGH NUMBER	5109	By Expiry
LOW NUMBER	3646	By Ticket-of-Leave
TRANSFERS (To other institutions)...	4	At Large
RECEIVED	24	

Collin's Bay
DIAMOND

{ December }

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HAS YOUR SUBSCRIPTION EXPIRED???



Christmas

Message

A friend of mine tells me, every January he has just started his Christmas shopping and of course he means that he has eleven months to prepare. Perhaps not many of us follow the same plan but there is merit in preparing for this great event. My friend does it by keeping his mind alert for every opportunity to make some purchases for gifts which he will distribute very happily at the proper time. It would be a very desirable thing to let your mind be alert to the Great Divine preparation which God made not a year ahead or nearly so, but centuries ahead in order that God might express His love to the sons of men and come to them in the form of a child and show them an example of life and a Saviour in death.

If I could coin a phrase which would fit Christmas, it would be to say "Preparation based on Love" makes for the happiest Christmas. Think of the Divine side—then think of the human side of Christmas. Answer the Divine side by doing the same thing for those who are near and dear to you. When some one asks you the old question "How did you keep Christmas?", you can reply—"I kept Christmas as a Great Festival of God's Love for which I prepared my mind and heart and taking my cue from the Divine, I passed on the warmth and love to my family and friends."

This recipe will give us the joy and peace of Christmas. May we all share in this happy season and may God Bless all our homes and families at this time.

Canon Minto Swan, MA, BD, ED
Protestant Chaplain.

The old and familiar story of Christmas tells us the manner in which Christ, the Son of God and Redeemer of our race, entered His world amidst the coldness and indifference of those whom He had come to save. And can we not say that the frigid atmosphere of Bethlehem's cave was a foretaste for Him of the reception He receives today from many who are labeled His own?

Christ yearns to come into the dwelling-place of men's hearts as much as he yearned to enter His world, but, too often, men who call themselves Christian, re-enact the closed door incident of the inn-keeper of Bethlehem and refuse Him entrance.

We can, by the warmth of our reception of Him, make amends for the original rejection and continued indifference of a world that He justly claims as His own.

Father F.M. Devine, S.J.,
Catholic Chaplain.



To all inmates of Collin's Bay Penitentiary and to all readers of the Collin's Bay DIAMOND, I extend on behalf of the entire staff, sincere best wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

As we come to another year-end and look forward once more to the beginning of a New Year, may we all put aside the mistakes of the past, and steadfastly look to the future with new hope and determination.

It is my sincere wish that the Yuletide Season may bring peace and happiness to all, both at home and away, and that the New Year will bring fulfillment of all our deserving hopes for the future.

V.S.J. Richmond,
Warden.



My first Christmas Message to you can only contain hope for you and your loved ones for the years ahead.

The Late William Jones, one of our foremost philosophers and psychologists said, "The greatest discovery of my generation is that one can change the quality of his life by changing the attitude of his mind."

Many of us have witnessed many examples of that declaration. As we enter the New Year of 1959, let us carry this fine message with us and put forth our best efforts to change our lives for the better.

A Merry Chirstmas and a Happy New Year to you and your families.

F. Smith,
Deputy Warden.

Guest Editorial - - -

Why should I write for the Penal Press?

by Dorothy W. Scheer Philadelphia, Pa. U.S.A.

Throughout history men have learned to express themselves creatively in prison. Today there are many former inmates enjoying good income careers in creative writing. Some are making best-seller lists. Some are editing and publishing their own newspapers.

A growing number of 'insiders' are writing for outside publications. When they become civilians they will go on writing for the same public, from a new press room, with a new subject, and a fresh slant.

From hundreds of office desks throughout the country one-time prison editors are telling us what to think, what to do, and how to spend our money.

Here are some quotes from letters of editors from six penal publications who are now in the free world.

"When I interviewed Mr. . . . he asked . . . 'Where did you learn to interview?' . . . I told him, . . . 'Working on a prison newspaper.'"

". . . I am taking over the public relations department of the . . . Corporation."

"I was offered a job as editor of a daily newspaper, and two spots in the public relations department of two industrial plants, but I turned them down to take a position as editor on trade journal."

"I'm writing ads for an advertising agency now."

"I will be leaving next month to take over the editorship of my own newspaper."

"You will be happy to know that . . . is making out fine as a radio script writer. He won't let any of us down."

". . . and she tells me he is the best rewrite man the paper ever had."

Journalism is a fine paying career. It is also the pathway to many jobs dealing with the public. Employers do not hesitate to come to the prison for men and women whose talents they have seen grow on the pages of the penal press.

Creative writing always brings deep personal satisfaction to the writer. We all like to express our opinions. When we put them down in plain talk, we make the reader a partner to our thoughts. Sometimes we bring him to the prison to work with us.

There are many outsiders sincerely interested in the prisoner's welfare. They read the penal press because they want to know, and they want to help. If more prisoners would write for the penal press, and cast their bread upon the waters, a

bakery might come floating back.

One letter to a prison editor can turn into a party line. An outsider who starts writing to one prison editor is soon writing to six. A half dozen more will get in touch with him to share some challenging ideas or just a friendly hello.

In a short time, the outsider is writing articles for the penal press (he isn't a writer, either) selling hobbycraft, visiting prisoners, visiting with A.A., writing to Pardon Boards and helping with parole plans.

Prison editors are not just dealing with words. They are moving people, and human emotions. The prisoner has many friends in that unseen audience who can improve his present and future life considerably.

Calling all prisoners: If you want to better the conditions in the prison, and in the community, write for the penal press. Present your case to the public. Fight for the prisoner's human rights; for better education, better job-training, better relationships with family friends and the community.

If you protest unfair newspaper headlines, write about the positive contribution of prisoners. If you deplore public prejudice against you, write articles that will win public confidence. If the public is indifferent, do something about it.

Understanding will come only in one way. You must tell them. Nothing will be done until you tell them. Write for the penal press. Think up ways to circulate it widely.

Tell the public over and over again, as if for the first time, what they should know and what they should do. Help them to help you. Each day is a first time for new readers of the penal press. The ignorant can be taught, the prejudiced won over, and the apathetic can be aroused.

The prison writer is a salesman. The more salesmen to write, the more outsiders who will be persuaded.

Religion and science have shown us that hidden wounds can sometimes be cured by self expression—by talking and writing. One of the best ways to handle our frustrations is to take responsibility for healing them.

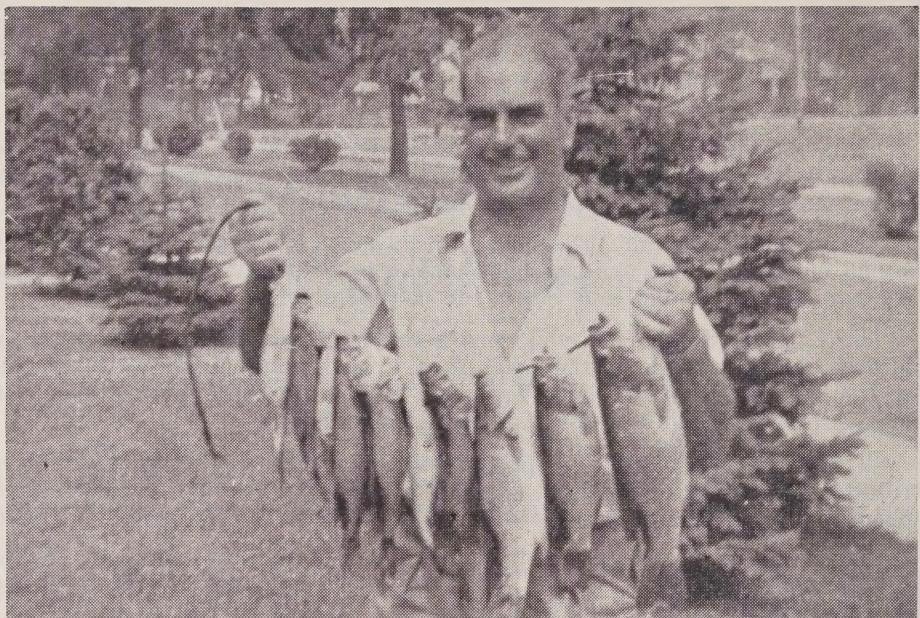
If we have met with injustice, let us practice fair-dealing. If we find too little kindness in the world, let us create more. If we suffer because of the ignorance all about us, let us send knowledge and mercy into the world to overcome it. We can heal by putting our best in writing.

There is a spiritual maturing of men and women who write for the penal press. They learn to love and respect their readers. They learn to know people, know what they want, what they feel, what moves them. They learn to love their readers, and their readers learn to love them.

Robert Louis Stevenson wrote in one of his poems. . . "Bright is the ring of words when the right man rings them."

Writing for the penal press helps you to become the right man. You find a new respect in work, a new confidence in yourself to contribute, a new appreciation of life and people.

(ED: NOTES FROM MRS. SCHEER'S LETTER APPEARS IN "THE LAST WORD". ALSO "STOP THE PRESS" GIVES A BRIEF OUTLINE OF THE WONDERFUL WORK MRS. SCHEER DOES FOR THE PENAL PRESS ALL THROUGH CANADA AND THE U.S.)



CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

Meet Mr. Smith, our 1958 "Citizen Of The Year"; a local businessman and a lifetime resident of the Limestone City.

'Bert' Smith is the gentleman who devotes 52 Tuesday mornings of each year instructing the student barbers at Collin's Bay. He is not a penitentiary employee—he has his own barbering business on Princess Street—but he gets a small compensation for the half-day per week he spends at The Bay instructing the barbers.

Mr. Smith has been a barber for almost 35 years. He has enjoyed happy, blissful married life for 35 years and he and Mrs. Smith are the proud parents of two boys, Clarke, 24, and Robert 17 years of age. He always carries

a pleasant smile with him wherever he goes.

This genial gentleman is actively interested in the local sporting activities, and, as can be seen from the above photo., he is a stalwart fisherman. In the summer, Mr. Smith spends a great deal of his free time on the water with rod and reel, and judging by this 'cut' he has had fisherman's luck.

As may be recognized from the pleasant features, there is another side to Mr. Smith. One of his main interests is helping his fellow-man; and those less fortunate than he. At Collin's Bay, the vocational barber students are his only concern. Many 'graduates' are now full-fledged barbers; gainfully employed, or operating their own busin-

esses, in the free world; success being crowned through the patience, understanding and assistance of Mr. Smith.

"Bert", as he is affectionately referred to by his students, takes a great parental interest in his boys under instruction and in addition to guiding them on their way to becoming export tonsorial artists, while confined here, he is very much interested in their welfare on release.

Mr. Smith has been instrumental in

getting many dischargees suitable employment, and has provided employment in his own shop to many on their release. Even though some may have not made the grade, he has had many successes, and will continue to have faith in rehabilitation of man. His philosophy is that there is some good in every person.

The C.B. DIAMOND therefore takes great pleasure in choosing Mr. Bert Smith, 1958 CITIZEN OF THE YEAR.



AUTUMN TREASURES

The woods are splashed with colours bright!
In the air is a smoky haze.
Over all is the restful, lazy quiet
Of long October days

When the sun sinks low, then drops from sight,
With a last resplendent glare,
And the stars in the heavens hove into sight,
Then a chill invades the air.

Such a beautiful time is autumn,
Ere the curtain of winter fallys
But it's treasures — we can't enjoy them,
They are stopped by prison walls.

G. Nicholas.



PRISON THOUGHTS

When one is in a prison fold
With evil, day to day.
The good and just left in his soul,
Does slowly sleep away.

What he must see, What he must hear
And what he must endure;
Frustration, sadness, misery,
How can his thoughts stay pure?

Although he may endeavour,
To keep his thoughts devout,
Piety dies and withers
Like flowers in a drought.

G. Nicholas



We Salute You Austin Cross

CROSS TOWN WITH OTTAWA CITIZEN'S AUSTIN CROSS

In a previous edition of the C.B. Diamond, I dedicated an article to the above Mr. Austin Cross. However, this one was more of a critical point of view in that Mr. Cross took offence to an article which appeared in the January-February issue—an article that was in fact reprinted from the "Coronet" magazine. Being a follower of 'Cross-Town' which appears on page 2 of each Ottawa Citizen, I knew he was a pretty good fellow after all and sure enough on Monday, September 29th he proved his point. He dedicated his entire article to:

"A PRISONER MAKES PLEA FOR REHABILITATION JOB"

Does anybody want to help a former criminal get rehabilitated? In a rather pitiful letter from Box 22, Kingston, Ontario, a fellow we shall call George has written that he now believes he is a new man. He has made a personal appeal to a member of our staff who was in court when this man was sentenced. Our staffer has since seen him in the penitentiary and believes that he has turned over a new leaf. He thinks the man ought to get another chance.

To get a ticket-of-leave next January, he must have a job to go to.

"I do not expect a big salary," he writes. "My future boss will determine this, with the efficiency of my work, and my attitude toward my fellow men.

Rev. Father . . . our RC chaplain has told me that if I did not get a job in Ottawa he would surely find something in Kingston, but I would sooner be away from Kingston, where I would meet guards I know on the streets", he writes.

Rehabilitation is worth while if the man has really reformed, and the only way you can find out if he has reformed is to try him. .Anybody interested?"

A lot of people read 'Cross Town regularly, and without a doubt this article Mr. Cross has written will bring this fellow a lot of help, and he can be almost certain of having a job so that he can make a 'ticket' in January.

Many of us are prone to ridicule the newspapers; we feel their opinions are biased; they are ridden with politics. We are being bitter towards our 'dailies' simply because our court reports get a big write-up; and they seem to us to be sadistic and enjoy seeing their reporters 'scoop' the wayward and make them look quite small. I know I am no exception—many a time I have been sorely embarrassed over the court-reporters write-ups of my escapades in the Ottawa courts.

It is true, I think, that newspapers do go too far in bringing forth the criminal news. I, too, believe that the papers can make a story sound a lot worse than it really is simply because it appears to make good reading. But if one paper is guilty of this they all are. The point is, that here is a man who is using his good column to further his humanitarian efforts, through the medium we so often criticize — the newspapers.

If newspapers would all work in the way of the Ottawa Citizen; let the staff writers build up, rather than run down, someone who has gone astray, then their sordid writings might be overlooked.

I, for one, salute you Austin Cross. You have taken a bold stand, and if ever I see you walking the streets of Ottawa, or at the Coffee Shoppe at Scott's, I will shake your hand. Through your efforts, people are being schooled, and many are beginning to realize that PRISONERS ARE PEOPLE, after all . . . worthy of a chance to start a new way of life.

THANK YOU, AUSTIN CROSS.

Their Second Punishment

An address delivered, by Mr. A.M. Kirkpatrick, Executive Director, John Howard Society of Canada, at the Annual Conference of the International Prisoners Aid Association, on September 9th, 1958.

Society has a right to protect itself from criminal depredation. Few question this, but there is a real divergence of opinion held among sincere and honest people as to how this should be done. Those assembled here believe undoubtedly that the best protection of society arises from providing reasonable assistance to the ex-inmate in order to enable him, if he wishes, to re-establish himself.

This is a relatively new idea in human civilization and is not fully accepted. It is not enough just that we should believe it. We must be able to make our case for the beliefs we have and the work we do in the Prisoners Aid Societies. Let us then examine some fundamental beliefs.

BELIEFS ABOUT PUNISHMENT

There has been since time immemorial great reliance on corporal punishments which have been deeply imbeded in our social customs. Mosaic Law called for restitution in set equivalents of so many oxen and so many sheep with death for moral offences. The Athenians in their civic pride believed banishment to live among the barbarians was the supreme punishment. Socrates chose the hemlock instead.

England and her Colonies utilized a variety of punishments including lashing, branding, mutilation, transportation and death. In 18th Century England there were no less than 350 offences punishable by death. Most of these were for trivial offences against property.

This is the record of a sentence handed down by a military Court Martial, London, Upper Canada, January 1838, Lt-Col. James Maitland, O.C., 32nd Regiment of Foot presiding. "For

the offense of desertion of his post, Pte. John Askew was sentenced to be given 100 strokes of the lash, to be branded on both palms with the letter "D" and to be transported to Van Diemen's Land for life." A marginal notation records that "the sentence of the court was duly carried out."

Today we look on prisons as the normal punishment for criminal activity, but in actual fact they came as a reform against the severity of such punishments of previous times.

Prior to the 18th Century offenders were held in castles or fortresses awaiting trial or the carrying out of the sentence or they were being held for debt. The idea of custodial prisons as places of punishment and penitence germinated in Quaker philosophy and issued in the Walnut Street Goal in Philadelphia in 1792. It was in the 18th Century goals that John Howard and Elizabeth Fry began their task of amelioration of the desperate plight of the inmates of those days.

All previous methods were the result of a belief in punitive deterrence which held that an example should be made of the offender by punishment, often brutal and horrible, to ensure that others would be deterred from committing such an offence or that the offender himself would not again venture to repeat his crime.

This belief that punishment would deter and that the rougher the treatment the greater the deterrence is deeply rooted in human nature as being a natural conclusion of a rational man.

A report of the first investigation ever made into the affairs of Kingston Penitentiary in Ontario, Canada dated 1849, signed by the Secretary, George

Brown, later the Honorable George Brown, founder and editor of the Fathers of Confederation, referred to a convict, Peter Charbonneau, ten years of age. "The table shows that Charbonneau's offences were of the most trifling description—such as were to be expected from a child of ten or eleven; and that for this he was stripped to the shirt and publicly lashed 57 times in eight and a half months. We can only regard this as a case of barbarity, disgraceful to humanity."

Mr. Herbert Morrison, then Home Secretary in England, in a speech made on March 28th, 1944 dealing with the question of Penal Reform, put the present trend of penal methods thus: "The first principle . . . is to keep as many offenders as possible out of prison. In the eighteen-sixties it was laid down in plain terms that the sole object of imprisonment was punitive deterrence with emphasis on the punitive. Just that: And so for a generation we had the most strictly deterrent penal system ever devised. The experiment had to be made at some time. The belief in the efficiency of severe punishment is always cropping up and without the devastating failure of this experiment we might never have known better. The failure was so complete that a departure to fresh principles became essential."

BELIEFS ABOUT HUMAN BEHAVIOUR

Punitive deterrence was based on the assumption that criminal behaviour was the result of innate badness or deliberate and wilful wickedness. Insanity was in similar terms believed to be the result of demoniac possession requiring bodily torment and torture to dislodge the demon.

During the last hundred years the development of the social sciences has revealed much about human behaviour as being subject to irrational compulsions and drives motivating actions as little understood by the offender himself as by society.

We need to recognize the significance

of the early years in determining the pre-disposing and precipitation factors behind human behaviour. This significance is noted in studies such as that by Eleanor and Sheldon Glueck called "Unravelling Juvenile Delinquency" and John Bolby's "Child Care and the Growth of Love." We rear our delinquents. They grow that way in the society we have developed.

In the study, "Unravelling Juvenile Delinquency", it was found that "over half the delinquents in this research had manifested serious signs of anti-social behaviour before the eighth year of life and another 40% before the eleventh year, thus comprising a total of nine-tenths of the entire group whose difficulties in adjusting to social demands were already clearly established before puberty."

In our Canadian penitentiarys 13% of the inmates in 1956 had been in juvenile institutions when they were children. How many more had been in foster homes? In the report of the Minister of Welfare for Ontario the total number of children in care at the end of that year was over 17,000. Removed undoubtedly for good cause from their homes but nonetheless separated from parents at an early date.

Recently I visited the youth corridor in a large city goal and talked to one group of seventeen and eighteen year olds just as they had been served dinner. The one boy on my left as I bent over the end of the table glared at me with such hostility that I expected he would throw his food at me. I was an adult of a different generation. I was there actually to be helpful and he had never seen me before. But here was the gap between the generations. . .the hostility of misunderstanding.

I went home reflecting about this incident and from my scrap book picked this verse.

"Eyes should not be like this, set in young faces;
Eyes hard and drearless, weighted
with their dread,
So hopeless and so haunted by the
traces

Of some defeat, of hunger long unfed;
Bewildered by a wisdom too soon
learned
Dark with distrust, glazed over with
despair —
Young eyes that watched their small
world overturned,
Eyes shifting lest one read the story
there."

It is impossible to overstress the significance of the preventive and protective agencies dealing with youth and to measure the importance of the support given to agencies working in these areas through United Appeals and Community Chests.

We realize the need for our best teachers in the earliest grades when we think of the necessity for society to assess objectively each child and to provide curative attention to the personality disturbances that can be seen even at such an early stage.

We have infinite belief and faith today that human nature can change and that personality can alter its expressions. Our experience with men from the prisons has indicated this most clearly. But how much more effective and less costly to divert the Niagara River at its source than to attempt to dam it at the Falls. There, through penstocks, we can merely divert a proportion into the turbines to develop energy which will play a constructive part in our social and economic system.

BELIEF IN THE REHABILITATIVE VALUE OF INSTITUTIONS

We are going to have prisons. The question is what kind. Maximum security institutions are catch-all for all sorts of offenders with all types of emotional and personality disorders. We lump together bank robbers and common thieves, drug addicts and alcoholics, sex deviates and confidence men, embezzelers and safe crackers. How can we expect administrators to develop programs of rehabilitation in such unclassified institutions which are often completely non-functional and built on the punitive philosophy of a

previous century? We place men literally in man cages. We warehouse them and around all we place a wall.

The prison wall is the symbol of our shrunken horizons in penology. It keeps men in but shuts the world out. It encompasses not only their bodies but circumscribes their social and spiritual outlook. The cleavage in relationship between the offender and society is symbolized by the wall. We send men away from society to learn how to live in society. We send men away from society to learn how to live in society. How can this be accomplished when we erect physical and social barriers between society and the prisoner?

The prison wall, except for the incorrigible few, must be broken down and a new concept developed of the prison as a place of total character retraining.

We need institutions specialized and differentiated by degree of custody from maximum to minimum with open forestry camps and also by function from industries, control training, vocational training to agricultural training.

We need educational programs since a high proportion of the men in our prisons have Grade 8 education or less. But above all we need programs of group discussion and group therapy which may help the inmate to obtain insight about himself and his conflict with society.

We need specialized medical institutions for addicts, sex deviates, alcoholics and psychopaths Reception centres and pre-release units are essential so that a system of planned treatment can function with diagnostic intake and release procedures.

We need to relieve overcrowding of these mass institutions and break down their numbers into small institutions where staff can interpenetrate the inmate population and break through the subculture of the inmate attitudes and defences.

There should be an integration of the whole correctional system realizing that rehabilitation begins at the point of

arrest and that the police lockups, the courts, probation, the institutions, parole and after-care all determine to some extent the kind of men who will walk out of prison. Even the most hardened repeater was at one time a first offender.

We need to recognize the importance of personnel. We can make no real change in making our prisons places with a treatment orientation unless we consider the training and standards of our personnel for all kinds of employment. We say this recognizing that there has been progress and that we have many institutional officers working with true devotion and dedication.

The folly of "just doing time" needs to be understood. We need to get to the place where inmates get not what they deserve but what they need. In the words of Alan Payton when describing the entry into prison of the young Police Lieutenant in "Too Late the Phalarope", "we need not only to punish but to provide opportunities to restore when we place men in prison."

BELIEFS ABOUT COMMUNITY RE-ESTABLISHMENT

Prisons are places that men come from and 98% eventually come out. It is a most important fact that they don't die in prison. They return to the community and then, all too often, their second punishment begins.

One inmate recently wrote this apt inventory of his feelings on return to the community. "We are the anonymous ones who move amongst you with wary eyes. We are among you but not of you; constantly on guard, lest by an incautious word or gesture, we may betray ourselves to you, and thereby lose our anonymity — and your respect. You may find us in your factories, in your garages, on your farms, and sometimes in your offices and places of business. We live next door, work at the next lathe, sit next to you in the movies. In short— we are your neighbours. Yet we are a group of men set apart, divided by our experience from those around us. We are the parolees from your prisons; still doing time. Although we walk the streets to all outward appear-

ances free men, we wear invisible numbers."

Men leave prison determined not to return and most men intend to renounce crime and criminal activities. They have great difficulty in maintaining these decisions and our job is to help them make these resolutions stick.

Rehabilitation must start within the man's own heart and we think in this connection of the story of the Prodigal Son in which the important phrase is, "He came to himself and returned to his father." No one can rehabilitate anyone. That he does within himself.

The anxiety of these men is focussed on survival since most of them are practically insolvent when released. Hence we supply in our prisoners aid work food, shelter, work clothing and tools. We recognize that it is no use counselling a hungry man.

Look at the problems that they encounter in employment. They have no references, no work record and in fact a gap in work experience. They have problems of bonding and licensing. They have to make the basic decision when confronted with the employment application form, "Shall I tell the Boss?" With some justification they fear this may prejudice their employability.

During the war in Chicago a large firm was put on security work and had to fingerprint their 16,000 employees. To their surprise they discovered that some 600 had fingerprint records as ex-convicts. The first reaction was to fire them all. One wiser head suggested they be looked at as individuals. Many were found to be responsible supervisory employees. None were fired and a new company policy was established.

In Canada there is discussion about developing a Bill of Rights. Several Canadian Provinces and various States in the United States have Fair Employment Practices Acts. It is long overdue that Governments which spend so much in "correcting" the offender, should ensure his right to work without discrimination on his release. Consideration should be given by governments to

bringing the use of prison records for employment purposes within the jurisdiction of such legislation as being discriminatory and affecting the rights of the citizen often after many years of hard struggle to win a responsible place in the community.

The emotional problems on release are very great. There is need for re-development of emotional roots, a reduction in hostility due to the heightened frustrations of prison life, securing of acceptance by others and the achieving of a tolerance making possible the acceptance of others particularly the families who may have learned to get along without the bread-winner.

There is an immediate return to the responsibilities of self-maintenance and the exercise of choice, making major decisions out of simple matters such as purchasing, ordering meals, opening doors, handling money, wearing prison clothing.

There is always the danger of mistaking liberty for license in the first flush of freedom. Some go on a luxury spending spree and frankly some go on a "bust" following release. This is not to be condoned nor moralized about. Rather it is to be accepted and worked with.

Many men have indicated that poor friends are better than no friends and that moving into community groups has many obstacles to acceptance because of fear of criminal identification and further rejection and hurt. Let us not think that a prison experience renders a man impervious to emotional hurt.

Many of these men have a need to make up for lost time in prison. They need to acquire the visible symbols of success — watches, cars, a "good front". Unless things "break right" the temptation to revert to known habit patterns is very hard to resist.

There is often a chip on the shoulder expectation of discrimination and a constant guardedness lest some remark or action may reveal the prison experience in the immediate past.

The very pace of life on the outside becomes a disturbing factor related to problems of fast transportation. Anxieties arise around the fear of meeting people, the desire for isolation, reorientation of thinking to women and children.

There is a place for citizen groups in after-care. In a very real and important sense prison after-care is an integral part of law enforcement and merits greatly increased citizen understanding and support. We seek the protection of society from criminal depredation. We do this by providing opportunity for each individual offender to make his way back into the community with safeguards and supports rather than returning without anyone to whom he may turn as he begins to serve what is all to frequently his second punishment.

I have not talked about costs. But is it not self-evident that the redemption of a very few men from treading the path of crime back to prison is in itself a justification of the work of the Prisoners Aid Societies for which the tax-payers should be grateful.

In Canada we calculate not only that it costs \$1500.00 per year to keep a man in prison; but about \$50,000.00 to commit and maintain a repeater. Success far less than has been achieved would pay for our annual budgets many times over if the economic costs of law enforcement were truly spelled out for the tax-payer.

But the important values are in the betterment of the community and the recharging of human lives with values which can lead to social and economic productiveness and a hitherto unknown personal happiness.

Louis Mumford in his book "Faith for Living" said, "The final test of an economic system is not the tons of iron, the tanks of oil, or the miles of textiles it produces; the final test lies in its ultimate products—the sort of men and women it nurtures and the order and beauty and sanity of their communities."



The Barred Bards



*Priests of the Utimate Beauty... Feeding the Flame of Art...
Serfs to a sordid duty... He saw them with his heart...*

Christmas Time

The snow is falling thick and fast
Christmas time is here at last.
Carol singing in the night,
Everyone is filled with light.
And where, oh where, is old St. Nick?
Flying with his reindeer quick.

Happy laughter, merry song,
Have patience now, it won't be long.
Decorate your Christmas Tree,
Cloaked in splendour for all to see.
Christmas morn' will soon be here,
Bringing with it joy and cheer.

The children now have gone to sleep,
While 'round the tree, you softly creep.
When everything is put in place,
Away to bed with happy face.
Listen now and soon you'll hear,
Santa Claus and his reindeer.

The sun shines in through frosted pane,
Sleighbells jingle down the lane.
Comes a-knocking at your door,
Patter of feet upon the floor.
Christmas morn' has really come,
See!!! how bright the morning sun!

Down the stairs you gaily fly,
See the children with sparkling eye,
The Christmas tree in all its glory,
Telling anew, that grand old story,
Of love, and warmth and joy unending,
Which Christ the Lord, this day is spending.

Will you and I bow down and pray,
And thank the Lord in every way?
And as we kneel around the hearth,
Ask God to bless us all on earth.
For you and I will never sleep,
Unless His Word, we faithfully keep.

J. Johnson

The highway of sin

I'm a rolling stone all alone and lost,
For a life of sin I've paid the cost.
When I pass by, all the people say,
Just another guy on that lost highway.

Just a deck of cards and a jug of wine,
And a woman's lies, made a life like mine.
On the day we met I went astray,
And started down that lost highway.

Now all you guys, don't ramble around,
On the road of sin or you'll curse the day,
You started down that lost highway.

It's true as can be, you cannot win
There is no end to a life of sin.
Don't be a fool who has to pay,
Just another guy on that lost highway.

Kelly



Milwaukee Braves' Lament

It was in the World Series of fifty-eight,
Spahn, pitching the first game, was going great,
Ford for the Yankees wasn't around long,
As the Milwaukee Braves were much too strong.

And then they moved into game number two
But the Yanks got nothing from Lucky Lew
They were swinging high and swinging wide
Lucky Lew had them 'way off stride.

For the third game, they moved to New York town
To have Don Larsen mow them down,
The Braves did swing, and the crowd did roar,
But on Perfect Don they could not score.

Now the Series moved into game number four
A win for the Yanks would even the score
But Spahn went again allowing only three hits
And had the Yankees out of their wits.

As they moved into Series game number five
A win for the Braves could end this drive,
But the bomber crew, not being out-done,
Are hoping Bob Turley can win this one.

Turley, knew quite well from game number two
That the Milwaukee Braves were a very tough crew
And the Yankees knowing that is it,

Outscored the Braves on runs and hits.

With the next game, back in Milwaukee Town,
The Braves needing a win for the coveted crown,
But Old Case needing to win game number six
Dug into his bag of famous ball tricks.

With the sixth game tied at the end of nine,
This important one moved into overtime,
And the Yanks determined to win it again,
Came through with the clincher in inning ten.

Now the Series is tied at three and three
It's do or die for Mil-wauk-ee
And Old Case knows that they must come through
Or it will be the end for him and his bomber crew.

With Lew Burdette and Perfect Don
Each trying to win this important one
The Braves sent Don to the showers early
And in to relieve came Bullet Bob Turley.

Having had only a few days rest
Turley was really at his very best
And to Milwaukee's sorrow and grief
Allowed but two hits in relief.

Burdette did pitch a very good game
But the Yankee bats he could not tame
Now this game ended six-to-two
Another Series for 'Case' and his crew.

After being down, three games to one,
All we can say is a job well done.
So hats off 'Case' you can really beam,
You really have a championship team.

. . P.A. Brown



NO SOUP LINE FOR THIS INMATE

Warden Kropp, having eaten dinner in the Officers' dining room left the mess hall and encountered an inmate standing on the sidewalk munching a sandwich.

A quick peek between the two slices of bread revealed a generous slice of roast beef.

"How do you manage to eat roast beef when I have to eat hot dogs?" asked the Warden.

The inmate, completely unabashed, looked quizzically at the "Man" and said, "Gee, you're the Warden, seems like you ought to be able to score something better than hot dogs!"



A Christmas Message from St. Nick

by Santa Claus

Because of the peculiar profession to which I have been called by destiny, I have but one chance each year to see and speak with my people all over the world. For this very reason, therefore, what I say must be from the heart; precise and potent.

THIS IS MY MESSAGE TO THE MEN IN PRISON.

I have visited young and old, poor and wealthy, humbled and exalted; I have spoken with everyone who has been born since the birth of Christ, nearly two thousand years ago. I have seen everyone in this world, but there is one man I have not been able to find—**A BAD MAN.**

Is there a bad person in the world? In my opinion—and I think I speak from enough experience—a bad person is a dead person. As long as a man is living he has a chance to do better, and be it his first chance, or hundredth, it is never too late to learn. In the many hundreds of years I have been visiting men in prison at Christmas-time, I have listened to many wild tales, but never have I told these men that they were forsaken; instead I have tried to convince them that they were being given a chance to do better.

Religious stories may become unfashionable from time to time, but they are never what you could term ‘old-fashioned’. The Christmas story, is a religious story, and as I am the ambassador of Christmas, I will relate to you the tale I have told prisoners for nearly two thousand years.

One of my first Yuletide journeys was in Switzerland. There I saw an old shepherd with his flock on a grassy slope, 'way down in the valley. It was very warm down there for me but I wanted to talk with him, so I went to

where he sat watching his sheep. I spoke with him for a while, then I noticed one lamb with a leg in splints. I asked the shepherd what had happened to this sheep lying beside him and he told me he had broken its leg. I was surprised at his cruelty and asked him why he had done this horrible thing to a dumb animal. He told me that this one sheep would never follow his flock but was always straying to the edge of the precipice to get some lush grass that grew there. There was always the danger that it would plunge over, and as sheep are great followers, he feared the whole herd might plunge over the cliff after that one disobedient animal. In order to save that one animal and keep the entire flock from disaster, the shepherd had broken its leg. At first the sheep was angry and had tried to bite him when he offered it food and drink, but he let it lie and suffer for a time. Later, when he came with food and water, it would lick his hands gratefully. He told me it would soon be well and would never again disobey him: it would stay near his side because it had learned, through its suffering, that he loved it and only acted for its own good.

And it would always be an example to the other sheep.

So, my prisoners at Christmas, if the Great Shepherd has let some hard experience come to you, it may be the chance to do better I have told you to expect. You cannot always have sunshine in your life, and you must be able to weather the storm as you enjoy the calm. Look to tomorrow. As one great poet (William Shakespeare) so aptly put it “Come what may, time and the hour will out the roughest day.”

Merry Chirstmas, boys and we'll see you again—somewhere—next year.

The Jovial Jester



WACKY WIT



In New York City, while a man perched high on a girder of the Manhattan bridge, Patrolman Joseph Piotrowski climbed toward him, pleaded successfully with him to come down. Later the patrolman asked, "Why did you do it?"

"Because it's my job damn it," the man replied. "I'm an inspector in the Department of Public Works."

Time

** ** ** ** **

The mother of a rough tough little boy in my class in a Toronto school sent me the following note: John was not at school yesterday because I took him to see the National Ballet. Please do not tell the other boys."

** ** ** ** **

A famous Hollywood director came back from the club car to turn in for the night and was surprised to find two lovely girls in his berth. Checking their tickets, the girls discovered that they had boarded the wrong train. Upset, they asked if they might remain in the berth anyway. The director carefully explained that he was a married man, a national personality, a respected man in the industry and he couldn't afford the slightest touch of scandal.

"I'm sorry," he finished, "but one of you will have to leave."

. . . Arlene Katz

** ** ** ** **

"Guess what," a camper wrote to her father. "There is a foot-long catfish under our cabin, two other catfish and a lot of baby ones. We are feeding them so they will trust us." "P.S. Could you send me a hook and line?"

** ** ** **

Cowhand: "Did you find this horse well-behaved while you were riding him?" Greenhorn: "I should say I did. He had such manners, whenever we came to a fence he let me go over first."

Via The New Day

Judge Elvis J. Stahr of Hickman, Ky. tells of a memorable case. The defendant was accused of kicking another citizen in the stomach. The defense lawyer argued that there was no real evil intent. When the defendant took the stand, the prosecutor shouted at him, "How can you possibly say that you delivered this terrific kick in the stomach without intending to?" The defendant studied a while. "He must have turned around too quick," he said.

** ** ** **

A prominent but unpopular Kentuckian sued for slander, alleging that the defendant had referred to him as "an 18-carat s.o.b." The jury listened gravely to all the evidence and then brought in its considered verdict: "We find the plaintiff is an 18-carat s.o.b."

Sat. Eve. Post

** ** ** **

Two Hollywood producers were watching the star of a Las Vegas show. "I wonder who made her dress," said one of them admiringly. "It's hard to say," said the other. "Probably the police."

ALL. . . (From the Sept./58 Readers' Digest)

** ** ** **

"Mother," asked a teen-age girl, "May I hit the flick?" "Hit the flick?" said her mother puzzled. "I'm afraid I don't read you." "Oh Mother!" the daughter said. "You mean you really don't know? 'Hit the flick' just means 'go to the movies'." "So?" said her mother. "Well, you ask me again after you rub the tub, scour the shower, spread the bed, and swish the dish."

Via Corrector . . .

** ** ** ** **

Letter from a nine-year camper: "Dear Mom and Pop: Camp is O.K. The food is wonderful and they don't make you eat it. Love, Allen."

** ** ** **

In the Philippines national penitentiary, bored but enterprising inmates, trained mice and birds to steal cigarettes from other inmates. One prisoner however, was not worried by the little thieves. The reason: He kept a boa constrictor in his clothes locker to guard his belongings.

O.P. News

** ** ** **

Bell-hop: "Did you ring sir?"

Irate Guest: "No I was tolling. I thought you were dead."

The Music Box



with "Buck" B.

WHAT IS JAZZ?

Since the beginning of Jazz, this question has never been answered. That is, not in words. Jazz is something you feel. As the late "Fats" Waller once said to a young woman who asked him this question, "Lady, if you don't know what it is, don't mess with it."



To answer this question, let's start at the begining of Jazz with the late Joe "King" Oliver. "The King" was born in Louisiana in 1885. It was in 1898 that the 13 year Joe Oliver picked up a battered coronet and began to teach himself. The first man to recognize the talent of The King was a music teacher named Walter Kenchen and through his efforts the King grew with

the music he loved best. He was one of the first to take the moods and feelings of the darkies and transform them into sound — the sound of Jazz. It wasn't easy for The King to gain recognition for these new sounds, for they were strange to everyone; something never before heard outside of the darkies' own hearts.

In 1920 Joe formed his own band. Already he had Johnny Dodds, one of the warmest of the New Orleans clarinetists; "Baby" Dodds, Johnny's brother, at the drums; a brilliant young woman Lil Hardin at the piano and Honore Dutrey playing the trombone. From then until 1936 The King reigned supreme. He wrote and played such classics as "Sugarfoot Stomp".

Sickness was to overtake The King and in April 1938 Joe "King" Oliver died leaving as his legacy a style of music that was just beginning to blossom.

There were many to catch the torch from Joe Oliver's failing hands, including such greats as "Kid" Ory; "Louis" Armstrong; Sidney Bechet; Bix Beiderbecke; Jimmy MacParland, and many, many others.

One of the greatest of the new era in Jazz is Benny Goodman, "The King of Swing". Benny's first steps in music were taken under the tutorship of Franz Schoepf. Although Benny had a love of the Classics, he had a need for Jazz. Jazz gave him the power to express himself in music, which he could not do in words.

In 1934 Benny was persuaded by his friend, John Hammond, to form his own band. This was no easy path to glory, for the depression was in full blast. Benny got his first break from NBC. They were featuring a three-hour show called 'Let's Dance' on Saturday nights. Among the men who joined Benny at this time were Gene Krupa, Bunny Berigan, Jess Stacey and Fletcher Henderson, his arranger.

Many times, Benny thought of going back to the Classics for it seemed that people were not ready for his free swinging style of Jazz. But Benny never gave up, and for a year he toured the country without too much success.

In 1935, during an engagement at the Palomar Ballroom in Los Angeles, Benny's star ascended. He and his music were greeted by such acclaim that he knew he had finally arrived.



America was ready for Swing. Hotel and Dance Hall owners now clamored for the Benny Goodman Band; his stay at the Congress Hotel in Chicago scheduled for six weeks, lasted for seven months. He was now acclaimed the King of Swing.

At this time, Benny added to his band such names as Harry James, Ziggy Elman, Vernon Brown, Lionel Hampton and Teddy Wilson.

On January 16th, 1938, Benny Goodman, though beset with doubts and fears, performed his first Jazz Concert at Carnegie Hall. From the opening number through his renditions of "I Concentrate On You", "Stomping At The Savoy", to his tempestuous closing work on "Sing, Sing Sing", he proved beyond all doubt that he truly deserved the title "*The King Of Swing*".



A smile is a twist of the mouth that sends warmth and cheer to everyone. It does not cost a penny, but is worth a million. So keep on smiling, because when you're smiling, the whole world smiles with you.

VOCATIONAL TRAINING



Institutional Graduation

by Jim. Sovay

Monday, October 6th, was a big day at Collin's Bay Penitentiary. It was "VG" Day—the day of Vocational Graduation for the classes of 1958. The auditorium was filled to capacity and practically the entire vocational groups of 1958 and 1959 were in attendance; the latter group getting a preview of what they will go through next year.

Mr. G. Taylor, Chief Vocational Officer and chairman of the afternoon's program, opened the ceremony by introducing the various guests from the "outside", which included representatives from the clergy, governmental, construction, after-care agencies, Dept. of Labour and almost every field imaginable. After completing the introductions, Mr. Taylor called upon Warden Richmond to say a few words.

In his address, Warden Richmond welcomed the many guests present and offered words of great encouragement to the Graduation Class. He mentioned the tremendous efforts put forth by the vocational trainees and stressed the great results a man could obtain through these efforts and how the trades learned here could become the foundation on which to rebuild his life. He

assured the new class that he and the members of his vocational staff would do all in their power to assist the men and the trainees would receive any help possible. Warden Richmond stressed that all should make time serve them instead of serving time. In concluding his address, the Warden wished each one success in their new endeavours and he hoped that the year would see a great number leave the institution better adjusted and better prepared for the future.

Assistant Commissioner J.A. McLaughlin, was then called upon to address the assembly. Mr. McLaughlin has been in attendance for the past ten years at the graduation ceremonies and he said it is always a pride and an honour to see the men graduating with a trade which made them better equipped for the future. He said that a person with a trade had a much better chance of getting employment on discharge, and stressed that it was through hard studying and a determination to get ahead that one reaches this goal. Mr. Taylor then called Mr. A.M. Kirkpatrick, Executive Director of the John Howard Society of Ontario to say a few words. Mr. Kirkpatrick discussed

the problems of after-care and said that the John Howard Society would do all they could to help each man in finding suitable employment and in trying to create a better understanding with employment agencies. He stressed that rehabilitation must begin within the man himself and that taking a trade was a good way to get a new start. He admonished those who would be taking part in this constructive training "to take the bull by the horns" and take full advantage of the vocational programme that they were entering. Mr. Kirkpatrick went on to say that with this new insight, and through various organizations, they were better prepared to help the released inmate and would be better able to help him in his new achievement.

Principal Speaker for the afternoon was Mr. Ken Smith, President of the Kingston Builder's Exchange. Mr. Smith told of his experience in the construction field as a brick layer, and stressed the importance of having a trade and what was expected of a tradesman from the employer. He said that he and his construction firm was always ready to assist those on leaving the institutions and felt that most employers today were not interested in the past of a man so long as he was a fair worker and that he knew his trade. Mr. Smith said a good trade was very important.

Mr. R. Cunningham, Vocational Training Co-ordinator of the Penitentiaries Branch, Ottawa then presented the certificates of training to the graduates assisted by the class instructors. They were:

BRICKLAYING CLASS (Instructors: R. Dick and R. Ayre)

Jean CARDINAL: Darwin JAMES: William COE: Ernest GALLEN: Lloyd TEBOW; Lawrence KIYOSHAK: and Frank KEOUGH. (Graduates who have been released: William Simmerson and Gerald Wagner).

CARPENTRY CLASS (Instructor: W. Huff)

William CONAHAN: Keith THOM-

AS: Marcel LEGACE: Arnold MELNICK.

ELECTRICAL CLASS (Instructor: A. Robinson)

Douglas PARSONS: James McISAAC: Glen CHARLTON: Kenneth CARON: Robert LONSDALE: (Graduates who have been released: William Clark)

MACHINE SHOP CLASS (Instructor: A. Bignon)

Robert ROBINSON: William PARKER: Robert GORDON: Edward BENNET: Robert WATTERS: Harry LAVOIE: Frank PALL. (Graduate that has been released K. Goldie) MOTOR VEHICLE REPAIR CLASS (Instructor: M. Derrick)

Glen PARKINSON: Kenneth BELL: James FOSTER: William LONSDALE and Raymond LENNEY. (Graduates who have been released: William Du-puis; Dick Bugow)

PLUMBING & HEATING CLASS (Instructor P. McQuide)

Terrance DRISCOL: Joseph PERRY: Kenneth MOLTBY: (Graduates who have been released: John Doyle: Gordon Peters: William Parnell)

SHEET METAL CLASS (Instructor G. Irvine)

Harold BROOKER: Gordon HILLIARD: (Graduates who have been released: John Spencer: Robert McLaughlin: George Finn: Kenneth Chapman)

Mr. Smith of the Toronto chapter of the American Society of Tool Engineers awarded a scholarship to William Parker for attaining the highest marks in his class.

Mr. C.R. Hogeboom, Schoolteacher, presented Academic School Certificates to the following students on their promotions to Grade 1X:

William COLE: John Anthony DOYLE: Edward JUDGE: Jean Pierre LAUZON: George Robert LISCOMB: David Keith MacLEAN and David Ronald Edgar STEWART.

A special award for the best Academic Scholar of the Year went to

Robert John Todd.

Mr. Taylor then brought the program to a close by thanking all those in attendance and giving words of encouragement to the new class, wishing all the very best of luck.

The guests who were in attendance were:

Mr. J.A. McLaughlin: Assistant Commissioner of Penitentiaries.

Mr. R. Cunningham: Vocational Training Co-ordinator of Penitentiaries.

Mr. Donald C. McNeill: Director of Apprentices; Dept of Labour, Ont.

Mr. A.M. Kirkpatrick: Executive Director: John Howard Society of Ont.

Mr. Ken. Smith: President, Kingston Builders Exchange.

Mr. A.C. Ritter: Director of Education, Kingston, Ontario.

Mr. H.C. Hunter: Inspector of Public Schools, Kingston, Ontario.

Mr. W.W. Farrel: National Employment Service.

Mr. C.C. Brooks: National Employment Service.

Major Hercus: Inspector of Apprentices: Kingston, Ontario.

Mr. T.D. McDONNEL: Superintendent, Penitentiary Staff College.

Mr. W. McCabe: John Howard Society of Ontario.

Mr. Smith: American Society of Tool Engineers.

Mr. Brown: American Society of Tool Engineers.

Mr. A.J. Campbell: Trades & Labour Council, Kingston, Ontario.

Mr. W.E. Wood: Shop Director, Q.E.C. V.I.

Mr. G. Cooper: Trades & Labour Council, Kingston, Ontario.

Mr. C.A.N. Edwards: Remission Service, Ottawa, Ontario.

Canon Minto Swan: Protestant Chaplain.

Father F. Devine: Catholic Priest.

Major Mercer: Salvation Army.



The Optimist Creed

Promise yourself to:

Be so strong that nothing can disturb your piece of mind.

Talk health, happiness and prosperity to every person you meet.

Make all your friends feel that there is something in them.

Look at the sunny side of everything and make your optimism come true.

Think only of the best, work only for the best and expect only the best.

Be just as enthusiastic about the success of others as you are about your own.

Forget the mistakes of the past and press on to the greater achievements of the future.

Wear a cheerful countenance at all times and give every living creature you meet a smile.

Give so much to the improvement of yourself that you have not time to criticize others.

Be too large for worry, too noble for anger, too strong for fear and too happy to permit the presence of trouble.

by Christian D. Larson



The Finger



Well, well, here I am—I've been around—and oh, what I have seen and heard . . . Getting right down to business, who do I overhear telling a couple of boys that he has no intentions of leaving the Quarry as long as S.B. remains. None other than the oldest teenager himself, Jimmy. . . Big Benny of the G.S. Gang always smilin'. Incidentally, Ben, how's your back? . . . Did anyone ever tell Bubbles just how fat and sloppy he looks? . . . Well, I'm telling him so, see!!! What's ze matter Dick B.? You walk around as if the stock market had ruined you. . . Did it? . . . Is it true that John the mark's theme song is "If It's The Last Thing I do" (I'll make you mine). . . hmm, hmm. . . I heard mason's James telling everyone that Peter C. is the laziest guy in the joint. That's a bad rib, James, you know Coe suffers from tired blood. . . Thinkin' of song, what's the name of that tune Simon's always hummin'? . . . Oh yes, "I Don't See Me In your Eyes Anymore." . . . Barney, the waxey one, getting younger every day—tall, "SILVERY" and handsome. . . Watson's too short, I better lay off him. . . Carpenter Harry trying to show off his muscles. . . If that fat is muscles then Sonny B. is Doug Hepburn. . . Who's the skin flint that just came in our haven last month? . . . Someone said he's doin' a twelver or something near the baker's dozen. Haven't we met before, Mac. . . Buggsy's nickname is very appropriate, because he is a bit buggsy. . . I am told Buck prefers peaches to oranges. . . Kanary's a bird dog. Gad what a song. . . Big Jim R. looks like he lost his best friend. . . He did too, by jove. . . Ike Hickman was the victim of a 'racket-buster'. . . Man the mentality of some bozos. . . Is CTI Gordie really a teenager, or am I right in figuring the fortyishes are closer. . . Advice to the marks, stay away from that 'small' tinsmith. . . how smartening up, Fred. . . How about that good looking bulldozer operator, John D. . . I hear he went to a certain female dormitory one night to put out a fire (in the middle of the night). . . Come, come John there wasn't that much heat to cool, even if you did work all night. . . Big Hashka babe was wanting some good hitting power for his Indians' last summer. . . Rodger, alias the Dodger says all he wants for X-Mas is his upper plate; a plate with 2 front teeth no less. . . Slow down, Tiger, you've got quite a while to go yet. . . Charlie L. finally got a change, or was it a sweet bounce? . . . Farmer Smith made quite a boodle around world series time. . . It just goes to show you that dumb luck's the farmer's best produce. . . Say, Spider, why not move your 'snozz' out of the way so's we can take a good look at your squash? . . . I was tempted to give Howard U. a ride but I just can't, the

guy's too much of a gentleman . . . You see, even the FINGER has a certain amount of decency in him . . . yeah hee, hee, hee. . . Red who's all 'done' walks around the joint like a rough egg—well, an "egg" anyway . . . Ray G. tried to talk Donnie L into some sort of a deal, but Don wouldn't hear of it. . . says he had too much to lose, hmm. . . I hear Brooker's favourite song is "Yak-a-de-Yak". He doesn't even breathe between "yaks". . . The Crow singing like a robin. Wonder Why??? hmm. . . If I'm to believe all the stories I hear bout Jim R. then the guy can stay far, far away from me. . . probably will anyway from what I hear. . . Ray L., were those chocolates tasty? Well almost tasty, anyway. . . Dace, you're a smooth conniver, tho' I'm willing to concede you're also very 'solid'. . . wish we had more like you in here. . . Speaking of solid people, I can put a couple of coppers in here in that category. . . I admit this may be unusual, but these guys are pro-con and they're OK by me. . . I hear The MARK lost a bundle on the braves. . . then again, wasn't he with the majority? Included amongst the blanks, who miscued on this series were: Brooker, Joe S., Terry S., Bill B.. Jim R.. Frank K., Mason's Smith, (Dick B. got him) Conrad C. and many, many others. . . Here are some of the sharpies: (who hooked them) John W. (who almost had a heart attack during the last 3 games), Eddie B., Joe B., Buck B., Dick B., Don F., John D. and Gord H. . . Oh well, as Johnny Kelly says, win or lose it's all in the game. . . Major, if you don't get you plate soon, we'll just have to call you as we sees you—"Gumy". . . Red S., why don't you join the committee again. . . I'm sure you could get us a skating rink this winter . . . Who's the party in the change room that swings with my strides all the time? The man is so used to seeing me on Saturday mornings that he has a pair of pants all ready for me before I can open my mouth. . . Riemer, you're wasting your time, you'll never get it back. . . As for you, Buzz, I'd appreciate it very much if you'd stop requesting the same records on Friday nites. . . I'd like to see Jimmy A. on his old job again, but maybe he likes the quarry better. . . Nice fella, this Jim. . . A big hello to Jim S. down powerhouse way. You're doing a good job with the A.A., Jim, keep it up. . . Tebo driving his tractor like he knew what he was doing. . . How ya doing, Norm F. Say tell me, how did you make out in the series? . . . Lowsy, you say! Man, you should stick to the horses. Look at all the fun you get out of losing. . . Harry J. cutting up Bud M. about his speed as a barber. Say Harry: the guy is so slow that when he finishes a cut, he has to start all over again. Gord H. is still the undisputed financer. . . Say, Leslie, why aren't you nice and quiet like your young brother, Jimmy. . . Do you really have to yap sixteen hours a day? . . . Danny C. decided to go back on the brick course. Could it be that you're rehabilitating yourself. . . Don C. throwing bluebirds via the Change Room. Who are you aiming at, Don? . . . The Tiger-changed Dept. Think you can get along with the Lions? . . . Joe S looks a lot happier in the hospital. . . but then again if I was doing his time, I'd be in the hospital, too. . . Haska how come you get sick so easy? . . . Bill C. I wish you'd reconsider! Friendship is much more important. . . You're not in that class, so why give us the impression you are? . . . Well, fellas, I'll cut my fingering short for this month but not before I give you an important clue to my identity—I'm a male—I change socks twice a week—I sleep in a bed, but never talk in my sleep—I don't like work, or play, but I do both—Who Am I???. . . Until I get you next month, I wish you all a very Merry X-Mas and a Happy "New Year"***
THE FINGER



Michigan abolished capital punishment in 1846, after the first man was tried, convicted and executed and later was proved to be innocent.

Alcoholics Anonymous' Corner

ALCOHOL -- A disease, or a Sin?

by Mitchell J.S.

The thought that comes to my mind is a very important one, or at least so I believe. There has been much said in regard to the sin and the sinfulness of the drunk; the unstable individual who stumbled along the path of least resistance, who seemed to always be involved in some unfortunate circumstance. This chap, perhaps only a few years ago, was one who was damned to some extent and an outcast to his community.

The word "drunk" was a much-abused word, in those days and perhaps even today, it is used by some as an adjective of ill-repute. We, of A.A., jokingly talk about 'a bunch of drunks' when referring to our alcoholic selves. Used by people who do not understand our lingo, or our problem, they look down upon the alcoholic as a lowly-degraded specimen of the human race. I have often heard mothers say to their young off-spring, "Do you see that man?" "He is a drunk; a disgrace, and if you touch drink that will be the outcome." Now, I know this was their honest belief and such things were probably done and said with good intentions.

To-day we, of course, realize that this attitude to the poor alcoholic was wrong—very, very wrong.

It is the honest opinion of this writer, first as an alcoholic and secondly as a spiritual thinker (and I have always been in the latter category) that I have failed to exercise my faith in the proper manner because of wrong thinking.

as a result of alcoholism.

Now let's first look at alcoholism and see what we can find about this subject. I believe, and this is backed by medical evidence, that alcoholism is an illness; a disease of the mind and the body, nor does it matter how much one drinks, but what it does to the drinker. It affects our thinking, our minds, our physical functionings; and it is no respecter of persons whatsoever. It is true, alcoholism is a progressive disease. It continues on and on, even if we have left it alone for some time, one drink sets off the mechanical 'spark' and we find that it has progressed to the stage where we are worse off than before we stopped.

I believe it illness; one without cure, but one with hope for all sufferers, because there IS recovery—recovery through the fellowship of A.A.

Now, let us take a look at the spiritual side of the program. I have always maintained a broad mind, on certain subjects. As a young man, I was and still am, very interested in the Bible. I have made various studies of the New Testament and I love the teachings I find there. Since coming to A.A. I found the Bible and its teachings are very important to me as an individual.

In the Bible, there is mention made concerning drunkenness. Although I do not believe that alcohol, in moderation of social usage interferes with our spiritual life, as long as it does not interfere with our daily living, or affect our spiritual, mental or physical beings.

I have heard many sermons preached on the sinfulness of drinking and the use of alcohol, but to date I have not heard too much emphasis placed on the illness of those who suffer from alcoholism. What about he and the spiritual side of our program? The Son of Man was very interested in each one of us; God before the Birth of the Son of Man foresaw the need of man; and so the Son of Man came to this earth. He was interested in the unfortunate; He had special interest in the sins of man; He was quite interested in the illness of man. All through His earthly ministry, He catered and ministered to the ills of His people.

Would I be wrong in saying that the Son of Man was a little more interested in the alcoholic? I don't think I would be. When I was on the bottle, I used to think, "why God has forgotten men." "Why?" "Didn't I believe in Him, and the Christian teaching?" "Then why had God forsaken me?"

Well, did He forsake me? No, I am happy to relate He did not. Didn't He guard and protect me in my drunken sprees? Didn't He go down into the gutter with me? I believe He had.

I believe A.A. is a gift of God to His people today and to those who suffer from alcoholism. Again, I believe A.A.

is a Miracle of our times. When we consider that A.A. started in 1934 with only 2 members and today has grown to over 250,000 members around the world, then only a miracle could have brought about such an accomplishment.

I thank God for having shown me a way whereby I can live a normal, healthy life; for everything good that has happened to me; for my loved ones who have stuck by me, and helped my Higher Power in dragging me from the gutter of despair to a happy environment in receiving my spiritual strength and bringing me to the ever-welcome arms of A.A. Yes, I have a lot to be thankful for today, even though I am in a penal institution. This too could have been God's way of showing me how to get back on the right road again.

In closing, I would like to stress that the above are my own personal opinions, and would ask all to please keep an open mind on anything I have said. This is my inception of the A.A. programme and the way I work it, and does not necessarily reflect the opinions or thoughts of others.

And I pray that God will grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change; courage to change the things I can; and the wisdom to know the difference.

30—at last!



"Blessed is the merciful who can forgive false testimony," quoted Al Birmingham, in criminal court.

"Blessed is the merciful who give mercy," chorused Lawrence Collins.

Judge John M. Renner, listened to their pleas and then said: "Blessed are the policemen who apprehended you men before you burglarized more than the 100 houses you admit to. One to five years —each in the Ohio State Penitentiary. Amen."

QUOTES FROM OUR DAILY NEWS

CONVICT LEAVING JAIL 'UNCERTAIN' OF FUTURE

(*Ottawa Citizen — Adri Boudewyn — Staff Writer*) Uncertainty makes the last day of prison the most difficult part for an inmate, members of the Ottawa Rotary Club were told Monday.

In the few seconds of confinement before his transition to freedom begins, a prisoner experiences uncertainty as to how his family will receive him; whether his friends will still want his companionship, and about his ability to get and hold a job, said Louis Zeitoun.

As executive secretary of the John Howard Society, he was addressing the club at a luncheon. Mr. Zeitoun told Rotarians that by the time a prisoner is released he has forgotten most of the social graces that he ever knew.

To him the simple operation of buying a package of cigarettes or ordering a cup of coffee in a restaurant is done with difficulty. He is highly conscious of his table manners or rather the lack of them and he has forgotten how to go about his own clothing."

"He is nervous about meeting strangers and especially women. There are cases when men would not go to apply for a job because there was a woman at the desk."

He said the financial part of rehabilitation in life was one of the first problems. In federal penitentiaries an inmate receives a remuneration based on a graded plan and it ranges from 12 to 24 cents per working day depending on conduct, industry and attitude. "Out of this remuneration he is obliged to save three to four cents a day," he said.

"In provincial institutions the remuneration varies from nothing —in the majority of instances—to a maximum of \$2 a month."

Emotional problems are as great as the material problems if not greater, the speaker said. A former inmate is usually ridden with hostility and bitterness against society because of his prison life.

During the time he spent in prison he has lost his sense of belonging and as he comes out he is eager to renew his membership in the human race, but gets frustrated when he finds society rejects him because of the record.

Mr. Zeitoun touching on theories about punishment, said rehabilitation goes hand in hand with prison reform.

He felt that if we took a close look at prisons as punishment we found "they do not serve the purpose they are made for."

"We think that punishment acts as a deterrent but if we look at the prison population in the penitentiaries in Canada we find that 75% of them are repeaters."

"We send men to prison to learn a lesson that if they commit another crime this is what happens to them."

"In prison we keep men in but we shut the world out," Mr. Zeitoun said.

"We cannot teach men to live in society when we erect physical and social barriers between society and the prisoner."

The speaker called for institutions where there is emphasis on treatment of the offender rather than punishment.

We need institutions where segregation is possible of offenders of different ages, of psychopaths, drug addicts, homosexuals and so on, he said.

WORK AND RECREATION AID IN PRISON REHABILITATION

(CANADIAN PRESS) HANEY, B.C. —There are no locks, no bars and no fences in two British Columbia prison camps near here. But the modern correctional institutions mix work and recreation with good results.

If a prisoner becomes bored with fishing in Chilliwack River he can swim in rock-lined forest pool, hunt, play baseball or look at television.

The camps are permanent but known merely as No. 1 and No. 2. A third is being built near this centre 50 miles from Vancouver.

It may seem a strange way to punish people who have broken the law, but E.G.B. Stevens, director of corrections, said during a conducted tour of the camps that they represented a major forward step in prison work.

"We are rather proud of the program," he said. "It helps the men and it certainly helps the people of the province."

"It would cost 10 times as much to provide accomodation and equipment for 60 men in a formal jail setting such as Oakalla Prison Farm."

"Instead of doing nothing in prison, they are building a 24-mile highway to Chilliwack Lake which will help open the country up for logging operations."

The carefully-chosen men sent to the camps are enabled to fit themselves for hard work in civilian life and make a small nest egg to take back with them.

Prisoners selected for the camps have only two or three months of their sentences remaining to serve.

Correctional Officer T.H. (Toby) Tobiasson said about three-quarters of the men here have been sentenced for liquor offences.

We have no trouble as they know that any breaches of discipline means they will go back to the main jail. Of more than 2,000 men here since it opened only one in 200 has been sent back. Only three have escaped.

"The best guard we have here is the television set in the dining hall. About two-thirds of the men spend all their evenings around it."

The prisoners have built everything in the camps from major motor-vehicle workshops to bird boxes in the trees around the buildings.

They work an eight-hour day constructing the 24-foot-wide road to Chilliwack Lake under direction of Herbert Miles-Pickup, forest service engineer.

Mr. Miles-Pickup say the men do clearing, culvert and bridge work and reforestation.

RAIN TURNS IN ALARM WHEN BANK JOB FAILS (*Ottawa Citizen*)

LANARK (Special)— An attempted bank robbery went unnoticed for several days here last week, until the weather gave the first clue.

Last Thursday bank employees discovered a leak in the ceiling after a heavy rain. Bank manager W.J. Buckley promptly notified James Barr of Perth, who owns the building.

Looking for the cause of the leak, Barr found a hole had been cut in the roof directly over the vault.

Provincial Police were notified and investigation showed the hole had been started by boring holes in the roof and then chopping out the rest.

A rope was found tied to the chimney and hanging over the side of the building, leading to the ground.

Marks on the broken wood parts of the roof were not fresh, indicating that the attempted robbery had taken place several days previously.

Police believe that the would-be cracksmen were scared away before they were able to complete their job.

JAIL RIOTS SEEN RELIEF OF TENSION (CANADIAN PRESS)

Toronto— Prison riots often have no real cause other than for relief of tension.

Sometimes the attempt to relieve tension is inward, whereby the convict

slashes himself with glass or razor blades.

This was part of the presentation at the second regional central Ontario magistrate's conference here by Dr. L.P. Gendreau, deputy commissioner of penitentiaries.

Some magistrates expressed amazement that information of individual cases submitted to the conference, was not available to them.

Dr. Gendreau agreed steps would be taken to make such information available.

PURCHASERS OF STOLEN GOODS CAN'T GET REFUND . . . CROWN

(*Niagara Falls Review*) — People who purchase stolen goods, regardless of whether or not they are aware that they are stolen, are not entitled to any refund of the price they paid, Assistant Crown Attorney Donald Scott declared in Stamford court yesterday.

Anybody who buys stolen goods gets no better title than the person who sells them, he said.

Mr. Scott explained that the Stamford Police experienced considerable difficulty recovering a typewriter, which was stolen from the Diamond Jubilee School on Dorchester Road last April and was found in a Toronto pawnshop.

"I am not going to have the police paying of pawnbrokers and secondhand dealers," he said. "Whoever purchased this machine has no claim on it whatsoever unless he goes through a civil court. The police have every right to pick it up."

The assistant crown attorney said a similar problem came up in Port Colborne recently. "I wish to make our position absolutely clear," he said. "It might be the practice in other cities to pay to recover stolen goods but it is not the practice in the county of Welland."

SWEEPING PENAL REFORMS LIKELY (*Kitchener-Waterloo Record*)

OTTAWA (CP)—Arrangements have been completed for a federal-provincial conference here October 13-14 that may set the stage for sweeping penal reforms.

Justice Minister Fulton said today the conference will consider recommendations of the Fauteux committee for a major overhaul of the whole system of penal corrections and paroles in Canada.

Most of the committee's 44 recommendations, made in July, 1956, require the co-operation of the provinces.

ALL PROVINCES

Perhaps the most far-reaching suggestion is that the federal government assume responsibility for the custody of prisoners sentenced to six or more months. It now has custody only of offenders sentenced to two years or more.

Mr. Fulton, who will be accompanied by Solicitor-General Balcer as federal representative, said he expects the attorneys-general of all 10 provinces to attend. In addition, the minister of reform institutions for Ontario and the minister of social welfare and rehabilitation of Saskatchewan are expected to attend.

The Fauteux Committee, headed by Mr. Justice Gerald Fauteux of the Supreme Court of Canada, made a variety of recommendations dealing with the punishment, treatment and reformation of offenders. Some can be implemented by either the federal or provincial authorities acting alone, but most require federal-provincial co-operation.

The federal government already has approved in principle those recommendations coming wholly within its jurisdiction. For example, it already has initiated steps to set up a national parole board, one of the committee's recommendations.

Where provincial co-operation is required, it has given the assurance it is prepared to co-operate on mutually satisfactory terms.

MAY AFFECT 1,500

The present federal penitentiary population is 5,900 prisoners. Normal

capacity of these institutions is 5,500. There are an estimated 15,000 persons in provincial jails. As many as 1,500 prisoners could be affected if the provinces agree to turn over more offenders to federal custody.

The federal government might seek to take over operation of some provincial institutions to handle the extra prisoners.

Other recommendations of the Fauteux committee concern greater segregation of prisoners, on the basis of offence and past records; specialized institution for alcoholics, drug addicts, sex offenders and psychopaths; and establishment of reception centres where offenders would be examined and classified pending committal to special institutions.

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Strictly Personal (OTTAWA CITIZEN)

CRIME'S COST UNCHANGED

Every item has risen steeply in the cost of living — except the cost of

Every item has risen steeply in the cost of living — except the cost of being crooked.

Most fines, for both criminal and civil offense, are still at their laughably low 1940 level.

Every day the newspapers report stories of swindlers and thieves who have made off with vast sums — and are subsequently fined \$500 or \$1,000, and perhaps given a year in jail.

I do not believe that long prison sentences do anything but embitter men, but I am convinced that large punitive fines can be effective deterrents to crimes.

A slum owner who persistently defies the law and exploits his wretchedly poor tenants is required to pay some piddling fine while he retains his swollen profits from human misery.

Frauds and fleecers take billions from the public annually, but the law is powerless to do more than assess some trivial fine that was not even adequate a dozen years ago.

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CONTRAST

A psychopathic drunkard who breaks into a shop and steals a carton of merchandise in order to buy more booze and drown himself in oblivion is sent to prison for a considerable number of years — but the sleek and bloated criminal who uses craft instead of force, and can afford a cunning lawyer, generally is tapped on the wrist with a feathery fine.

We live in a money culture, and money is the only language such men understand; but our justice seems to be in inverse ratio to the magnitude of the offense.

All our efforts at reform and rehabilitation will prove futile so long as youngsters can plainly see that a man is disgraced not for being a crook, but for being a failure as a crook.

Society's worship of success has extended itself to the enemies of society, and irony can go no further than this.

What we require is a brisk overhauling of our criminal statutes, bringing the fines into more sensible proportion to the values of the dollar today, as well as to the gravity and scope of the offense.

Fines have been doubled for illegal parking, but the upper reaches of law-breaking have scarcely been touched by the magistrate's hand.

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From the Kitchener-Waterloo Record of October 7th, 1958

Magistrate Al Barron has a neat trick for reviving starry-eyed bridal couples at the end of his civil ceremonies. He just grins at the bridegroom and quips: "I've just given you the maximum sentence — life."

Prudence points the way to Rehabilitation

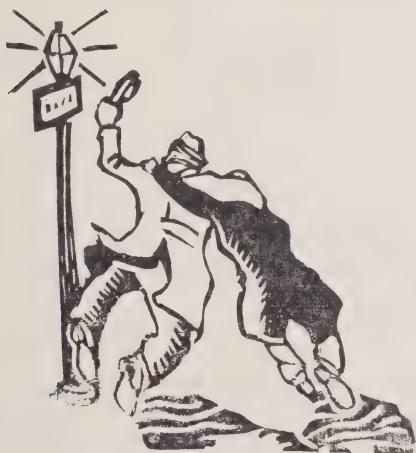
by J.P. Lauzon

Ideally, the prudent man views his every act in the light of eternity. Before he performs an action he asks himself this question: "Will this action help me to save my soul or will it hinder me?" "Will it push me a few steps further along the road to heaven or will it turn me down a dead end street?"

In practice, of course, it is impossible to quiz yourself everytime you make a move. Still, you can cultivate a certain frame of mind, a general attitude, that will pull you up short every time you are apt to make a wrong turn.

When you have more important decisions to make, you will want to exercise prudence in a special way. To do this, consider the past, the present, and the future.

The past will tell you how you have acted previously under similar circumstances. From previous experience, for example, you know you can safely take aboard two or three drinks without any odd consequences. At this moment your



sparkling and bubbling hostess is insisting. You absorb a fifth. What to do? Tell her that no really polite hostess will insist? Perhaps it would be simpler to continue to decline with equal enthusiasm. She will give up, eventually.

TIME CHANGE

The past is a valid guide for action but the present must be considered too. Time and conditions change. Methods and procedures that may have served us very well ten years ago may no longer prove efficient. Antiquity in itself is no argument for validity. However we may feel about it personally the fact is that the jet has replaced the ox cart and we suspect that some day the jet will itself be supplanted.

The past is a helpful but not infallible media. We are living here and now we must adapt ourselves to meet present circumstances. For example, the principles of morality do not change but the application of principles to a concrete case is a most individual matter. Each case must be considered on its own merits. And that is where prudence comes into play. (i.e) in applying principles to actual cases with their attendant circumstances to quote Lincoln, "Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty."

Finally, it is the office of prudence to look to the future. Before making any big decision we should look ahead and try to determine the consequences of our own action for ourselves and for others. This does not mean we are to waste a lot of time in procrastinating, putting off action indefinitely while we consult an imaginary crystal ball. It does mean that some thought given to the several possible results of an action might prevent us from making foolish mistakes.

To sum up. We exercise prudence by reviewing the past, considering the present, peering into the mist of the future as far as we can attain our mortal vision. We do this on the natural level when we marshal natural means towards a natural end. We practise supernatural prudence when we perform all our actions in the light of our supernatural destiny.

Our Monthly Reprint

Time Does Many Things

(*via Agricola*)

Time has a way of bringing things down to size. How well I know this. When I was quite young, I left the little town that I had been born in. During the years that I was away from my birthplace, I recalled many events and places that had been so important to my early childhood. As I grew older, I discussed the events that had taken place and described the various places in the small town of my birth with friends during bull-sessions. I spoke of the large house that an aunt of mine had lived in, the large barn where I played as a boy and of the creek, the swiftly moving, twenty-foot deep bed of water that I almost drowned in.

I was almost nineteen years old before I had the opportunity to visit my birthplace and of course the very first stops on my mental list were the house, the large barn and the swiftly running creek. The house which I had remembered as being rather large, turned out to be a cozy-looking bungalow. The enormous barn that I had recalled wouldn't have made a good two-car garage. The deep creek (and it hadn't changed) was a small dribble of water barely waist high.

Such is life—some of the most important things at the moment, in time, will seem minor and insignificant; that is, if we remember them at all. Making mountains from mole-hills seems to be a human trait that we all have.

I believe, besides death, entering the high walls of some prison will bring a man (or woman) down to size quicker than anything on this earth. Having a pair of handcuffs snapped to ones wrists that starts the beginning of the end, makes a man realize just how insignificant he really is. You were a 'big man' until that happened, even

though you might have been only five-five, you walked six feet tall. You were respected (in some circles), the women ran after you, you were the boss and selected only that which you desired. With a silent click of the cuffs, all of this faded and everything was brought down to size. You now stood five-five and felt smaller.

A few men grow while confined with others, sort of fade (or shrink) and never again walk six-feet tall. Some grow mentally while others lapse into an indifference that stays with them for the rest of their lives.

The man who grows mentally while confined, realizes how unimportant he really is to society. He is made to know that the splash he can make is no larger than a drop of water dropped into an ocean of water. He realizes that no one is interested in whether he is released or not. Friends and relatives fail to write and his Don Juan ego is finally crushed. Many a prisoner has found this true after slipping a letter out to an old girl friend. Nine out of ten times, she mails the letter back to the Administration with a note attached, saying: "I do not wish to correspond with this man." Time literally, brings this type of inmate down to size in a hurry.

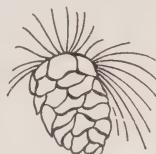
I can recall an event along this line that happened to me not too many years ago. There was a certain young lady whom I sort of planned on getting hitched to. We had gone steady for some while and I thought the lady was very much in love with me. Due to circumstances beyond my control, I was forced to be away from her for eighteen months. When I was once again available, new car, sporty wardrobe and all that, I dropped in on the lady. Now

you can believe this or not, the lady, at first, did not even remember me. It wasn't because she didn't want to, she had completely forgotten me. Talk about being brought down to size, brother, believe me, that old Don Juan ego flew right out of my life.

Most of us have found that we can be a "big important man" in our own circle of friends but step out of that circle and you're just another Joe. Have you ever noticed a group of teenagers together? How important, brave and loud they can be and ready to fight a lion in a New York minute. Get one of them away from their crows and about all you'll

hear is, "yes sir", and "no sir". In other words, individually, they are immediately brought down to size.

Serving time should be the greatest factor in our life showing all of us that we aren't 'big important men'. Perhaps some of us walk big while confined and truly believe in our hearts that we do the little man a favour when we speak to him. Serving time is an empty void in our lives; a chasm that can never be filled. Walking big in such a vacuum will never be down on the streets, such immaturity will not guarantee "bigness" in society. Sooner or later, all of us must realize what time will do for size.



Be careful my friend when you pick a friend

This story was brought to our attention by a man who thought everyone was his friend and we believe the morale of this story could be a lesson to many of us.

It seems the wind was blowing strong and the ice was solid on the ground as a hunter was tramping through the woods. While hunting for game, he noticed a little snake frozen to the ground. He felt sorry for the little fellow and being a true sportsman, he took his knife and lifted the snake from the ground. He then put the snake beneath his shirt next to his skin where the snake could feel the warmth of his body.

It wasn't long after that the snake began to move. The warmth of the hunter's skin had melted the ice and the snake again felt power coming back to him. Then as soon as he was well on his way to recovery, he bit the hunter. The hunter became shocked. He looked to the snake with unbelieving eyes and said. "You mean after I lifted you from the ground where you were frozen and ready to die, and gave you the warmth of my body so that you might live, you turned and bit me?"

"Well," said the snake, looking the hunter dead in the eye, "you knew I was a snake when you picked me up didn't you?"

THE PENAL PRESS SAYS

WE NEED PRACTICAL ASSISTANCE

from THE SPECTATOR

From what we have been told, heard during yard conversations and have read, the greatest obstacle to be overcome by the released prisoner is that of economic stability.

Men and women who enter prison usually do so through actions designed to gain them financial returns. Few are thrill bandits and even less are there of those who simply commit crime because of a compulsive urge.

Men commit robberies because they are in need of money. After arrest, conviction and sentence they find themselves with even less.

In serving out long prison terms they grow bankrupt in money and friends. Contacts which may have been of great import to their complete rehabilitation vanish into thin air.

Too often the prisoner is sent out into a strange world with barely enough coin of the realm to sustain himself for a full week. He is seldom able to pay more than a week's rent in a furnished room.

There are some prisoners who are fortunate enough to have relatives or friends to tide them over the rough spots. They have a good chance to continue lives unblemished with steel bars and gray walls.

True, many prisoners on parole have the opportunity of borrowing from employers, but becoming indebted may have been the prime cause of his criminal offense.

We believe some method should be resolved that would permit prisoners the opportunity to earn money to be placed aside pending his release.

While at first glance it may appear that such a plan would cost the taxpayer, it would in actuality save for the taxpayer.

It is a well-known fact that it costs less to keep a prisoner on parole than it does to keep him confined in prison.

In saving the prisoner's freedom, society would also gain a tax paying member who would ease the tax burden.

RESPONSIBILITY

from THE CORRECTOR

Too many people think of liberty as the small boy does of school vacation. No more nine o'clock bell, no more restrictions on activity, no more being shut within four walls. No teacher standing by to instruct, order, repress, or reprimand. What a glorious feeling? The days, the weeks are free.

That is the liberty of a school boy, but is not the liberty of manhood. The boy will learn. There will come a time when the keen edge of untrammelled freedom will lose its edge. The unpredictable and spontaneous explosions of action will begin to feel the pressure of a brake. Approaching young manhood the boy slowly discovers it is not always best and sometimes impossible to do exactly what to do whenever he feels like doing it. A new force has entered his life. It is something he may have dimly observed having effects upon his parents in times gone by, but now it impinges upon him.

What has happened to the boy is his beginning to recognize a gradually accumulating weight of responsibility. From a carefree spirit, an elf or a bundle of dirt, noise and energy he has emerged into something else. He is now a personality, a unit in the life around him. More and more of what he now does,

thinks and says has influence and effect upon other people. Therefore the old liberty is gone. Now he must think of other folks. Now he must curb natural impulses. Now he must begin to do things that are not always pleasant. And thus it is that responsibility is born. And thus each of us, in some degree, become aware of it.

Probably in no other land on earth is this sense of responsibility so well defined as it is here in America. That is because our nation was founded upon the principle of responsibility. That is what liberty means. In a land in which there is no liberty no one except the dictator is responsible for anyone else. Nor are they responsible for any other thing.

In America we are free. We have the widest range of freedom ever known in a nation. And by that same token we have more responsibilities than the people of any other land. The liberty we have inherited was and is freedom from tyranny and freedom to develop ourselves. The moment we got it the responsibilities for our progress and welfare were placed squarely upon our own shoulders.

We still have liberty; therefore we still have those responsibilities. The finger of destiny points directly at each and every one of us. Liberty didn't mean unrestricted ease, comfort, pleasure, freedom to do anything we like. It didn't mean we were to dance through life solely to the music of our own whistle. It did mean that every soul among us must take upon himself his rightful share of responsibility for maintenance of the opportunities freedom gave us.

PRISON JOURNALISM IS EFFECTIVE

from THE ANGOLITE

What can a newspaper or magazine published in a penal institution accomplish?

It can serve a good many purposes more than just to furnish amusement for its inmate readers. It can be — and in some institutions, is — a powerful force serving both the prisoners and administration of the prison as a useful rehabilitative tool. Like its outside counterpart the prison publication both reflects and molds the opinion of the reader.

For more than three-quarters of a century there have been prison newspapers and magazines. Most of the 150-some-odd penal publications that span the nation today via state and federal prisons are comparative newcomers to the field. But all are dedicated to the same principles, insofar as the individual institutional administrations permit — to serve as "voice of the inmates."

Rapidly growing recognition by the outside public has done much to forward the efforts put into the job of presenting a prisoner's side of matters by, for the most part, amateur editors and writers who ply their pens to make such publications possible. World renowned writer, Earle Stanley Gardner is one of the staunchest backers of the Penal Press. In Iowa several outside newspapers carry weekly columns written by prisoners, and in Alabama a prisoner writes a weekly column for the State Journal. All these are thoroughly enjoyed by outside readers.

From the pages of the Penal Press, John Q. Public has begun to learn by slow degrees that John Q. Prisoner is a fellow human being who thinks, who acts and who responds to the same identical mental processes as himself.

From these same pages Mr. Public learns of the problems that beset both the prisoners and the warders — and often times how they settle them to their mutual satisfaction. A good prison publication presents a true picture of prison life.

James N. Goodsel, Staff Writer for the CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR writes of the Penal Press: "The effectiveness of prison journalism is dependent upon the degree of enlightenment of the prison administration. Only under the more progressive form of administration will journalism behind walls produce anything of literary value or of accurate information as to prison life."

"Prison newspapers are only as effective, say penologists, as the administration will allow. If a tradition of responsibility is gradually built up by enlightened prison officials, the paper can serve as a useful rehabilitative tool."

WHO IS FOOLING WHOM?

Via THE RAIFORD RECORD

A study of the problems attendant to increasing prison populations leads up to the conclusion that there is immediate and urgent need for more Vocational and Academic Programs geared to meet the demands of free world industry and commerce.

A few of our nation's prisons have such programs but too many of them simply do not train their prisoners to that degree of skill and competency demanded by free industry. Many prison trainees now receive on-the-job training in maintenance shops equipped with out-dated equipment or staffed with incompetent instructors, or both. On-the-job training combined with classroom theory is particularly suitable for penal institutions, in that the acquired skills of prisoners can be utilized to the benefit of the institution. But they are mere lip-service concessions where the industrial maintenance shops are ill-equipped and incompetently staffed.

Who is fooling whom? A prisoner who has been badly trained on obsolete machinery and equipment cannot hold his own in competition with workers who have been trained in modern well-equipped shops. If we really want reformation let us dispense with halfway measures and a divided house as to how prisoners should be treated and get with it. If we only want retribution, then let us stop beating around the bush and say so. We can't have both.

An attempt to convince the prisoner that the real object of his imprisonment is rehabilitation cannot be reconciled with the punitive attitude. The degree of rehabilitation is going to depend largely upon the minimizing of punitive methods with more emphasis on the academic and vocational aspects of imprisonment.

Prisons have functioned in the past and, for the most part still stand, as society's means of inflicting punishment on the offender for his wrong-doing. Back of this general program of punishment has been the policy of retribution, and the sentiment of vengeance: Life for Life, Eye for Eye, and Tooth for Tooth. Punishment for punishment's sake is still a powerful influence in penal legislation and practices, but the modern trend and concept of imprisonment is not entirely predicated upon punitive methods. Such methods have been utter failures and Mr. John Q. Public is gradually becoming aware of that fact, and how much it is costing him.

The creation and operation of adequate training programs in both the academic and vocational categories, would save the taxpayer many dollars by substantially reducing recidivism. Society would be further, and especially, benefitted in receiving progressive and constructive men who could qualify for skilled jobs. But most important of all, the inmate would gain the pride in personal

achievement....which is so essential to his becoming an accepted member of society once again. What will it be, Mr. Citizen, — REFORMATION. or RETRIBUTION?

THOSE WHO PAY THE "GREATER PRICE"

via THE MENTOR

There is probably no group of men and women more conscious of the price of crime than inmates serving time in penal institutions. No group, perhaps but with one exception. And I refer here to the innocent wives and children and husbands, mothers and fathers who are also doing time, in a real sense of the word, while their loved ones are behind prison walls.

Part of the price of crime when a person is sentenced to prison is a giving up of one of the most precious things of life: Liberty and Freedom. . . But there is yet a greater price; A greater punishment. This is paid when a man or a woman is alone in a cell at night — so all alone — tormented with the realization that he or she has inflicted hardship, suffering and disgrace on those loved ones who are totally innocent of wrong doing. Surely not enough can be written concerning all the faithful wives or husbands who keep a home together while Daddy or Mommy is away paying a debt to society. We can measure the tears shed or the number of prayers ascending heavenward from the lips of a mother, for a son or daughter who has become entangled with the law? These innocent people are, without a doubt, the heroes who wait and 'do time' for the guilty. These, — the relatives of inmates in penal institutions are the brave and faithful souls who pay the greater price.

If not for the sake of the criminal then does it not behoove society, for the sake of the innocent relatives of the men and women to look upon the exconvict as a person who has been emotionally and mentally ill? And now, having been released from prison, is it not the responsibility of society to lend a helping hand to men and women who have paid their debt? A helping hand in securing employment or in giving assistance in re-building the unit of the home? Probably there would not be as many men and women returned to our penal institutions if, the public at large, would become educated to the fact that "it is human to err, but divine to forgive." In a most assured sense, society does owe a debt to any person who has spent years behind bars and who has done everything within his power to rehabilitate himself. Too. . .so many men and women return to prison because society has given them a cold shoulder and made no attempt at aid.

This attitude on the part of society is, to say the least, foolish as well as expensive. It costs money for childrens' aid, mothers' welfare etc. But money is not all. . .The toll mounts up in endless figures, in waste of manpower and human lives: in broken hearts and homes. A non-political agency could be appointed to obtain employment and housing for inmates about to be released again into society. It is a detriment to an inmate's morale, when, having been given a release date to have to wait weeks or months before employment or a proper home can be secured. Additional worry is given to the relatives of such an inmate. It isn't the ex-convict who has been assisted who again makes the newspaper heading. The ex-convict released from prison by parole, or having done his full time; having paid a debt to society, having truly repented for his crime, has balanced the scale of society. The question is, when will society balance the scale at least for those who pay the. . .Greater Price? . . .The innocent ones!

Got a compliment or a complaint?
If so, this is your page, So let it go
Because this is ---

THE LAST WORD

Dear Sir:

I have enjoyed your C.B. Diamond ever since I first saw one. I think it quite amazing and commendable that men who are out of circulation so to speak are so well versed on current affairs. . . Good luck to you, and much success to the new editions of C.B. Diamond.

P. Lees, Toronto, Ont.

(*Ed. Note: Thank you, Miss Lees, Your very kind words and thoughts are much appreciated and we hope that our mag becomes even more interesting. Our best Christmas wishes go to you, your family, associate, and acquaintances and hope also that we may continue to hear these nice words spoken, and written, by you.)*

** ** **

The Editors:

I have been quite interested in your magazine since coming to spend a few years with you. I wonder if you could use my services, on news in and around The Bay, as long as you can keep my identity 'top secret'. Your faithful rumor-monger

THE FINGER

(*Ed. Note: We need a finger-man on our paper to cap things off properly. Since we do not know your identity, nor can we identify your handwriting (since you used a typewriter), we have no alternative but to keep you on our "protected list". By all means contribute, but give us a clue sometime, so we can put the finger on you.)*

Dear Editor:

I have been a constant reader to the "Diamond" for over two years and take this opportunity to say how very much I enjoy each and every article in it and sincerely hope it will continue to be published for a long time to come. . . Good luck and keep up your fine work.

Miss Eileen Gray.
Montreal, Quebec.

(*Ed. Note: Your kind words really give our morale a great big boost, we will surely try to improve to keep your good opinion of us.)*

*** *** ***

The Editors:

I have every confidence in you. Rise and Shine, boys and don't forget your halo's. Bless your hearts.

Mrs. J.R. Douglas

(*Ed. Note: Gosh, Mrs. Douglas, we aren't really angels, just trying to do a job. Thank you for your kind boost, we'll keep plugging along till that great day in the morning.)*

*** *** ***

Dear Sirs,

We wish to congratulate you on the fine work you are doing on behalf of some of the less fortunate members of our society.

Mr. Fraser Howes, Secretary
Kingston Branch, O.P.S.M.T.F.

(*Ed. Note. Thank you for your confidence in us, we will keep on trying to improve.)*

The Diamond Staff wishes to extend their Best Wishes for a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year to our many friends 'inside' and 'outside' the institution. Your kind support, and confidence, has helped us to get started once again in the penal press field and we trust that throughout the New Year our endeavours will be accomplishing more, and will meet with your approval.

Don Peachey

Al Thompson

Buck Bordeleau

A. Gordon

University of Toronto
c/o Chief Librarian,
Periodicals Department,
Toronto 5, Ontario.



Merry Merry
Christmas

For all our friends we wish this to be a season
of significance. A holiday when peace mingles with
merriment, love with good fellowship, good works
with good will. And may the spirit of Christmas abide
with you and those dear to you, now and always.